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**THE SENATE**  
**COMMITTEE ON LOCAL, URBAN**  
**AND STATE AFFAIRS**

SENATOR  
**GERALD VAN WOERKOM**  
CHAIRMAN

**Minutes of the Senate Local, Urban & State Affairs Committee**  
Tuesday, September 15, 2009  
3:00 p.m.  
Room 110 of the Farnum Building

Chairman Van Woerkom called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

Members present: Senators Van Woerkom, Birkholz, and Basham.

Senator Birkholz motioned to approve the minutes from June 9, 2009 and the motion was supported by Senator Basham. The minutes from June 9, 2009 were approved.

Senator Basjham motioned to excuse Sen. Gleason and the motion was supported by Senator Birkholz.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Rep. Booher and Steve Sobers, Mayor of Big Rapids to introduce House Bill 4744.

Rep. Booher and Mayor Sobers spoke about the need to satisfy the concerns of the U.S.D.A.

Sen. Allen arrived at 3:15 p.m.

Larry Steckelberg, Michigan Department of Treasury Legislative Liaison, spoke about the department's concerns. Chairman Van Woerkom expressed his desire to move the bill and address the concern on the Senate floor.

Chairman Van Woerkom read the names of those who did not wish to speak on HB 4744, but wished to have their opinion stated.

Those who supported HB 4744 were:

- Andy Schor, Michigan Municipal League.
- Eric Davis, Michigan Association of Counties.

Senator Birkholz moved to report out House Bill 4744 with support from Senator Allen. HB 4744 passed favorably, 4-0. Senator Birkholz motioned to report out HB 4744 with immediate effect with support from Senator Allen. HB 4744 was reported favorably, 4-0, with immediate effect.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited the clerk to explain Senate Bill 715.

Sen. Allen moved to adopt the S-1 Substitute for Senate Bill 715 with support from Sen. Birkholz. The substitute was adopted 4-0.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Bill Anderson, Michigan Township Association, to testify on SB 715. Mr. Anderson indicated MTA was neutral on the bill and wished it went further.

Sen. Birkholz questioned whether it was better than what we have now and Mr. Anderson agreed it was.

Chairman Van Woerkom read the names of those who did not wish to speak on SB 715, but wished to have their opinion stated.

Those who supported SB 715 were:

- Eric Davis and Michelle Brya, Michigan Association of Drain Commissioners.

Those who were neutral on SB 715 were:

- Nancy Nyquist, Michigan Department of Agriculture.

Senator Allen moved to report out SB 715 (S-1) with support from Senator Birkholz. SB 715 passed favorably, 4-0. Senator Allen motioned to report out SB 715 (S-1) with immediate effect with support from Senator Birkholz. SB 715 (S-1) was reported favorably, 4-0, with immediate effect.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Sen. Birkholz to introduce Senate Bill 726.

Sen. Birkholz offered an amendment to SB 726, explained as being technical in nature. The amendment was supported by Sen. Allen. The amendment was adopted 4-0.

Sen. Birkholz motioned to adopt the amendment as an S-1. The motion was supported by Sen. Allen. The S-1 was adopted 4-0.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Mr. Anderson back to discuss SB 726. Mr. Anderson explained the need for the change and his support.

Chairman Van Woerkom invited Rodney Nanney and Elana Nanney to explain their opposition to SB 726. Ms. Nanney spoke of her involvement in the community and the need to have young people involved.

Sens. Basham and Birkholz complimented Ms. Nanney and the need to bring consistency to the law.

Senator Allen moved to report out Senate Bill 726 as an S-1 with support from Senator Birkholz. SB 726 (S-1) passed favorably, 4-0. Senator Allen motioned to report out SB 726 with immediate effect with support from Senator Birkholz. SB 726 (S-1) was reported favorably, 4-0, with immediate effect.

Senator Allen motioned for adjournment with no objection.

Chairman Van Woerkom adjourned the committee at 4:00 p.m.